

Glenn took the reins as chief in 2007 after rising through the ranks in his hometown agency. Growing up in Leitchfield, Glenn served a brief stint with the Houston (Texas) Police Department in the 1980s before returning home where he belonged. Since he became chief, Glenn has worked diligently with the city's leadership to ensure his department has what it needs to be successful.

"Chief sees to it that we have good equipment, receive good training, have a nice facility — but we are constantly trying to do more things to get a closer association with our community," said Officer Brandon Brooks.

Brooks, a three-year veteran of the agency, has been honored twice by the Kentucky Office of Highway Safety for his DUI arrests and once for seat belt violation arrests. He also is serving as the

accreditation manager as the agency seeks reaccreditation through the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police. He and another officer recently have taken the lead on creating a neighborhood watch program, something Brooks said benefits the community and the officers.

"We want to get people involved with our police officers a little more," Brooks said. "We are trying to get that off the ground so that we can meet with the public, maybe people we wouldn't have met before, and hopefully, from there, kind of expand our community projects to safety fairs and whatever the possibilities are for us."

There is little violent crime to speak of in Leitchfield, Glenn said. When the neighborhood watch members began coming together a few months ago, Glenn said most of their complaints were about speeders and loud neighbors — but they are issues that are important to the citizens, and therefore not taken lightly by the officers.

"It lets us get out there with the people and see what their concerns are, what their needs are," Glenn said. "A lot of times we don't have interaction with people unless they call us when they need us for something bad, but this gives them a

chance to come in there and talk to us one on one and express their concerns."

So far, Brooks said the response has been promising.

"The people who want to get involved are people who want to help," he said. "But even when you ask them, 'What do you want to see change? What do you think are issues? Well, for the most part, a lot of the general public says, 'I don't see drugs on my street. I don't see the effects of violent crimes,' things like that. There are only so many of us on the street at any given time. But the public is out there. They are the ones who call us, so the better communication we have with them the more it helps us do our job. [The neighborhood watch program] has so many advantages, I can't think of any disadvantages."

For the past few years, the agency has kept a close eye on the community through the eyes of its teenagers in the Grayson County High School. School Resource Officer Braxton Allen, who has served the role for two years, makes a point to meet every freshman who enters the school each year by teaching a section on bullying in the students' health classes.

"I teach about bullying, cyber bullying, sexting — and tell them it's against the law," Allen said. "A lot of them don't realize >>

◀ Leitchfield is the county seat of Grayson, a growing county of more than 25,000 residents. The Leitchfield Police Department is responsible for about 6,500 of those citizens.

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